

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 10, and 19 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a motherboard to have a chipset coupled thereto;

a riser card coupled with the motherboard, the riser card having a circuit thereon that interacts with a corresponding portion of the chipset to provide a functionality to the system, the circuit including a hardware component that has a corresponding driver, the riser card also having a memory to store one or more indications of the functionality, wherein the riser card operates as a logical extension of the motherboard ~~and provides an external interface for the motherboard~~; and

a memory to store a sequence of instructions, the memory coupled with the motherboard, the sequence of instructions to cause ~~a driver~~ the driver to be loaded based, at least in part, on the one or more indications of the functionality.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the riser card is coupled with the motherboard via a slot interface having pins corresponding to one or more predetermined industry standards.

3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the memory of the riser card is a read-only memory (ROM) and a boot sequence is a basic input/output system (BIOS).

4. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the functionality comprises one or more audio codecs.

5. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the functionality comprises one or more modem codecs.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the functionality comprises support for one or more Universal Serial Bus devices.

7. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the functionality comprises support for one or more SMBus devices.

8. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the functionality comprises networking functionality.

9. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the driver is loaded by an operating system.

10. (Currently Amended) A riser card comprising:

an interface to allow the riser card to be coupled with a motherboard having a chipset coupled thereto, the motherboard further having a memory coupled thereto to store a sequence of instructions to cause a driver of the riser card to be loaded based, at least in part, on one or more indications of a functionality provided to a system, wherein the riser card operates as a logical extension of the motherboard ~~and provides an external interface for the motherboard;~~

a circuit that interacts with a corresponding portion of the chipset to provide the functionality to the system; and

a memory to store the one or more indications of the functionality.

11. (Previously Presented) The riser card of claim 10 wherein the riser card is coupled with the motherboard via a slot interface having pins corresponding to one or more predetermined industry standards.

12. (Previously Presented) The riser card of claim 10 wherein the memory is a read-only memory (ROM) and a boot sequence is a basic input/output system (BIOS).

13. (Previously Presented) The riser card of claim 10 wherein the functionality comprises one or more audio codecs.

14. (Previously Presented) The riser card of claim 10 wherein the functionality comprises one or more modem codecs.

15. (Previously Presented) The riser card of claim 10 wherein the functionality comprises support for one or more Universal Serial Bus devices.

16. (Previously Presented) The riser card of claim 10 wherein the functionality comprises support for one or more SMBus devices.

17. (Previously Presented) The riser card of claim 10 wherein the functionality comprises networking functionality.

18. (Previously Presented) The riser card of claim 10 wherein the driver is loaded by an operating system.

19. (Currently Amended) A memory comprising an interface to couple with a riser card, the riser card having a circuit thereon that interacts with a corresponding portion of a chipset to provide a functionality to a system, the circuit including a hardware component that has a corresponding driver, the memory to store one or more indications of the functionality, wherein ~~a driver~~ the driver is loaded based, at least in part, on the one or more indications of the functionality, and the riser card operates as a logical extension of the motherboard ~~and provides an external interface for the motherboard~~.

20. (Previously Presented) The memory of claim 19 wherein the riser card is coupled with a motherboard via a slot interface having pins corresponding to one or more predetermined industry standards.

21. (Previously Presented) The memory of claim 19 wherein the memory is a read-only memory (ROM).

22. (Previously Presented) The memory of claim 19 wherein the functionality comprises one or more audio codecs.

23. (Previously Presented) The memory of claim 19 wherein the functionality comprises one or more modem codecs.

24. (Previously Presented) The memory of claim 19 wherein the functionality comprises support for one or more Universal Serial Bus devices.

25. (Previously Presented) The memory of claim 19 wherein the functionality comprises support for one or more SMBus devices.

26. (Previously Presented) The memory of claim 19 wherein the functionality comprises networking functionality.

27. (Previously Presented) The memory of claim 19 wherein the driver is loaded by an operating system.
